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ABSTRACT

Four selected aspects of school finance in 1,750 rural counties (1,199 multi-district and 551 single district) located in 44 states were examined: (1) annual salaries of instructional staffs; (2) total per pupil expenditures, in average daily attendance; (3) expenditures for pupil transportation; and (4) relationships between school salaries and family incomes. Total distribution ranges and central tendencies, by states and geographic areas, were included to show the financial picture concerning rural school salaries and per pupil expenditures. Based on the 1950 Census data, the multi-district and single-district counties were grouped into the most rural and the least rural. Among the findings were: the average annual salary of the instructional staffs in the rural county school systems was $3,123 in 1955-56; for the most rural counties, the average annual salary was $2,882 and $3,218 for the least rural counties; for the smallest cities (2,500-9,999 population), the average annual salary was $4,034 and $5,068 for the largest cities (25,000 or more); the average annual rural school salaries paid in the states or regions were almost invariably higher than the average annual incomes of the families living within the same states or regions; of the average total expenditure per pupil per annum, an average of $21 went for pupil transportation; and the average for pupil transportation for the most rural school systems was nearly 7 times that for the most urban school systems. (NQ)

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THE RURAL SCHOOL SURVEY

SELECTED INDEXES of Rural School Finance in the United States 1955-56

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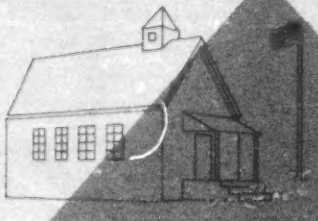

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HIGHLIGHTS

1. The average annual salary of the instructional staffs in the rural county school systems of the United States (44 States) was $3,123 in 1955-56.
2. For the most rural counties (group A), the average annual salary was $2,882; for the least rural counties (group D), $3,218; for the smallest cities (2,500-9,999 population), $4,034; and for the largest cities (25,000 or more), $5,068. This means that *salaries in the most rural school systems average only a little more than half those of the most urban school systems.*
3. Annual rural school salaries varied from an average of $1,640 per instructional staff member in the lowest paying rural county to $5,731 in the highest paying rural county, a ratio of 3½ to 1.
4. The average annual rural school salaries paid in the States or regions are almost invariably higher than the average annual incomes of the families living within the same States or regions. States and regions in which the rural school salaries are high generally also show high family incomes; those in which these salaries are low generally also show low family incomes.
5. The average total school expenditure per pupil (A.D.A.) was $221 per annum in the rural county school systems. In a few counties these expenditures fell below $110 per pupil; in a few others they exceeded $700.
6. For the most rural counties (group A), the average annual expenditure was $200; for the least rural, $224; for the smallest cities, $273; and for the largest cities, $321. Thus, the average expenditure per pupil in the most rural counties was less than two-thirds than in the most urban school systems.
7. Of the average total expenditure per pupil per annum, an average of $21 went for transporting pupils to and from their schools. The range was from zero to $158.
8. The most rural school systems showed the highest pupil transportation expenditures and the most urban school systems the lowest, the average for the former being nearly 7 times that for the latter.

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Circular Number 566

SELECTED INDEXES of Rural School Finance in the United States

1955-56

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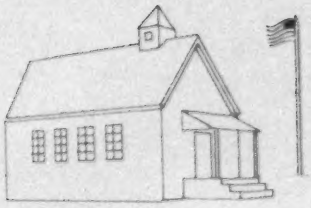

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Foreword

The present circular is the third of a general series entitled *The Rural School Survey*. Like the preceding circulars, it is based on and is supplementary to the major survey report, published as chapter 3, section IV of the *Biennial Survey of Education in the United States, 1954-56*. Circular No. 529 *(Statistics of Public School Systems in 101 of the Most Rural Counties, 1955-56)* was the first of the general series and Circular No. 565 *(Statistics of Rural Schools – A U.S. Summary)* was the second.

The present circular is devoted to four selected aspects of school finance in 1,750 rural counties; namely, (1) annual salaries of instructional staffs, (2) total per pupil expenditures, (3) expenditures for pupil transportation, and (4) relationships between school salaries and family incomes. Total distribution ranges and central tendencies, by States and geographic areas, are presented to show the financial picture as concerns rural school salaries and per pupil expenditures.

These four aspects of public education in rural communities were chosen for special study because there is a widespread interest in the financial status of the rural schools in various parts of the United States. The situation is obviously dynamic. Salaries and other school costs are rising. Despite this fact, more and better prepared teachers are needed; a growing variety of school services is demanded. There is increasing concern about school costs in both rural and urban communities. As elsewhere in the complexities of the American economy, money plays a significant role in the status and development of rural education.

Walter H. Gaumnitz, author of this circular, prepared in the Research Studies and Surveys Section of which Emery M. Foster is Chief, was assisted by Emanuel Reiser, who compiled part of the original data; and Mary Anne Harvey, who verified the data and made many helpful suggestions.

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Educational Statistics Branch

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Selected Indexes of Rural School Finance In The United States: 1955-56

Introduction

There is a wide-spread and growing interest in the status and well-being of the public schools in all parts of the United States. One phase of that interest naturally focuses upon financial factors related to how the schools carry on their obligations. Taxpayers are concerned with school costs, not only because their pocketbooks are affected but because they regard them as indicators of the quality of the educational services provided; business and social leaders look upon school costs as sources of both pride and concern; and teachers see school expenditures in relation to their professional status and welfare.

The rural schools have long been regarded as financially backward and neglected. However, comparatively few statistical facts have thus far become available for the Nation, or on a State-by-State basis, to permit detailed examination of the financial status of the rural schools or to make valid comparisons with the financial facts for schools in other types of communities. Through the first nationwide survey of rural county school systems, recently completed for the school year 1955-56, many comparable facts have now come to light for all types of school systems. Some of these have been abstracted and are presented in compact form in this supplementary circular.

Purpose and Scope of This Circular

Recently, two reports were issued by the Office of Education which set forth in some detail the findings of two extensive surveys. Together, these included the school systems of 1,750 rural counties.[1] One of these reports, bearing the sub-designation *Rural Counties*, contains data for 1,199 rural counties, each organized upon a multi-district basis. The other report, bearing the sub-designation *County Unit Counties*, contains data for a total of 742 single-district counties. Of the latter counties, 551 were found to meet certain criteria which qualified them as *rural* counties and thus entitled them to be included in this circular. In other words, 191 of the counties contained in the county-unit report were found to be too urban to be included in the present study. The 1,750 rural counties for which data are included here are located in a total of 44 States.

The multi-district counties mentioned are those in which there are two or more local school districts, each having a legal identity and each possessing prescribed administrative functions. The schools of these counties are for the most part highly decentralized, and their official functions are discharged chiefly through a vote of the residents of each district, or through the local boards of education. In most cases a county superintendent of schools acts as the intermediate school officer between the local districts and the State department of

[1] Biennial Survey of Education in the United States – 1954-56, *Statistics of Local School Systems*, Chapter 3. (The two reports were organized as: Section IV, *Rural Counties*, and Section III, *County-Unit Counties*). Washington: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1959.

education. In these multi-district counties the central county school office may provide many countywide school services, but more often the number of such services is small.

In the single-district counties the whole county is organized as one school district. In these, all of the public schools are financed and controlled on a countywide basis. There are usually a county board of education and a superintendent of schools. These usually manage and provide services for all of the public schools of the county in much the same manner as do those of the larger cities.

The two reports from which the data were drawn for this supplementary study contain much detailed information, including many facts relating to school receipts and expenditures. To make these detailed facts more meaningful, general indexes—averages, ratios, percentages—were computed and published in section IV for each of 4 groups of counties, stratified on the basis of ruralness described herein. Similar general indexes were also compiled for each of the component States and for the geographic regions involved.

While data showing central tendencies do have the merit of simplicity in presenting detail, they tend to cover up the extreme conditions, and thus often fail to reveal many facts which are of major importance. The specific purpose of the present circular, therefore, is to lift out for closer scrutiny certain facts relating to conditions of rural school finance. This will be done by concentrating attention upon finance as one of the most vital aspects of rural education, and by calling attention to the extent to which these school systems vary when compared by region, by State, by type of county school organization, and by degree of ruralness.

Stratification of the Counties on Basis of Ruralness

As pointed out above, the data for this supplemental report were collected from a total of 1,750 rural counties (see table 1), 1,199 of the multi-district type and 551 of the single-district type. These counties were selected as rural and classified into 4 groups, according to certain criteria[2] based upon the 1950 data published for each county by the Bureau of the Census. Of the multi-district counties, 397 were classified group A (the most rural), 340 group B, 186 group C, and 276 group D (the least rural); of the single-district counties, 253 were classified group A, 193 group B, 53 group C, and 52 group D.

A word of caution is needed in considering the grouping of the counties on the basis of ruralness. As suggested by the classifications used, the groups range from group A as the most rural to group D as the least rural. However, group B counties do not always fit neatly into this pattern. According to the Census definition, all of the counties in this category are 85 percent or more rural; but in some of these counties, especially those sparsely inhabited, the people do not live on farms or follow agricultural pursuits. Instead, they live in small *clusters* (villages or towns) and are

[2] For classification as a rural county, 60 percent or more of the total number of inhabitants of the county had to live in rural communities; for those counties in which from 85 to 60 percent of the people were reported as rural, 50 percent or more of the rural population also had to live on farms.

The counties thus selected were then stratified, according to ruralness, into the following 4 groups:

1. Counties having 85 percent or more of their inhabitants classified as rural, with 50 percent or more of their rural people on farms, were designated Group A;
2. Counties having 85 percent or more of their inhabitants classified as rural, with less than 50 percent of these on farms, were designated Group B;
3. Counties having 75 but less than 85 percent of their people classified as rural with 50 percent or more of them living on farms, were designated Group C; and
4. Counties having 60 but less than 75 percent of their inhabitants classified as rural, with 50 percent or more of such population living on farms, were designated Group D.

The United States Bureau of the Census (1950 Census of Population, vol. II, part 1, p. 33-4) describes "rural" population as consisting of all persons remaining after the following persons are taken out of the total: (1) those living in incorporated cities, boroughs, and villages of 2,500 or more inhabitants, (2) those in incorporated towns of 2,500 or more where "town" is used to designate minor civil divisions of counties, and (3) those in densely settled urban fringe areas around cities of 50,000 or more.

The publication describes rural-farm population as consisting of all persons living on farms, except those paying cash rent for their house and yard only, and those persons in institutions, summer camps, motels, and tourist camps located on farms.

engaged in such pursuits as mining or forestry, or servicing recreation centers. Their ruralness is, therefore, of a specialized character.

This report involves a total of 44 States. Four States – Connecticut, Delaware, New Jersey and Rhode Island – are industrialized to such an extent that they had no counties which qualified as rural under the selective criteria applied (see table 1). Three States – Arizona, Massachusetts, and New Hampshire – are represented by only one county each; Maine, New York and Vermont are each represented by only 4 counties. In these, and in many other States, most of the counties were found to be nonrural in character in accordance with the selective criteria used. These counties were either too industrialized and urbanized to qualify or their sparse population was located chiefly in villages and towns rather than on farms, and often engaged in nonagricultural pursuits.

The question naturally arises: Why did so many of the counties of some States – Arizona, Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont – all of them apparently rural, fail to qualify as rural according to the criteria employed? The answer to this question is to be found chiefly in the fact that many of the counties of these States are sparsely inhabited and that large proportions of the people living in them resided in communities of 2,500 or more and were employed in occupations other than agriculture.

A few examples will illustrate the situation: Yuma County, Ariz., has a land area of about 10,000 square miles and a population of 28,000. Nearly half of the people lived in the cities of Yuma and West Yuma. This left the remaining half scattered thinly (1.5 per square mile) over the rural area, with only 15 percent of them living on farms and 27 percent of them engaged in agricultural pursuits.

Other counties of Arizona revealed similar conditions. Only half of the 14 counties showed a rural population of 60 percent or more of the total, but fewer than 1 in 5 of the people lived on farms or were engaged in agriculture. They were thus omitted from this survey.

Two other counties have been chosen to illustrate a similar situation in the northern tier of the New England States. Aroostook, the largest and northern-most county of Maine, has a land area of 6,805 square miles and a population of 96,039 (14.1 per square mile). In 1950, 66 percent of its people had their homes in centers of less than 2,500, but only 25.9 percent of them lived on farms, 30.1 percent were employed in agriculture, and 18 percent of the land area was in farms. A closer scrutiny reveals that within Aroostook county there were 7 urban centers with a total population of 32,712. Many of the rural people lived in villages. The northwestern part of the county is mountainous and very sparsely settled. The farm population was too small to qualify this county as "rural." Aroostook and 11 other counties of Maine had to be classified as nonrural.

Rutland County, Vt., presents a similar geographic picture, except that it is smaller, more populous, and perhaps more mountainous. This county has a land area of 929 square miles and 45,905 inhabitants (49.4 per square mile). Of the total population, 61.5 percent were found to be rural, but only 14.6 percent lived on farms, and only 12.9 percent were employed in agriculture. This county contains a city having 17,659 inhabitants and 5 other places of 1,000 or more people. According to the rural criteria adopted for this study, Rutland and 7 other counties of Vermont had to be classified as nonrural.

In six of the States included in this report—Florida, Louisiana, Maryland, Nevada, Virginia, and West Virginia—all of the counties were organized on the single-district (county-unit) basis; in 7 others—Alabama, Georgia, Kentucky, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Utah—more than half of the rural counties included in this study were also of the single-district type. With the exception of Nevada and Utah, the single-district type of organization has developed chiefly in the Southeast region. However, this form of county school organization is now showing some growth in many parts of the United States, but especially in California, Colorado, Idaho, Illinois, and Texas. Nevertheless, viewed as a whole, the multiple-district type of county school organization with its many small independent school districts tends to predominate in rural America today.

Organization of This Report

The findings of this study are presented chiefly in six basic tables (tables 2-7). Data are presented for each of three aspects of school finance; viz., the average salaries paid (tables 2 and 3), the total current expenditures per pupil in average daily attendance (tables 4 and 5), and the cost per pupil for transporting many of them to and from school (tables 6 and 7). Four text tables (tables A, B, C and D) are also presented. The purpose of these is to give emphasis to certain aspects of this study and to summarize and supplement others. The data cited in the text are for the most part intended to show how the tables should be read and interpreted. They are not meant to be highly analytical or exhaustive in the facts presented.

The first of the financial indexes, average salary paid per staff member, is of major concern because to a large extent "the teacher is the school." Insofar as this is true, the quality of the education provided in the various types of rural counties is to a large extent reflected by the salaries. The second, current expenditure per pupil, represents an overall picture of what these counties, and the constituent States and geographic regions, invest in the education of the rural child attending the public schools. City school data showing comparable salaries and per pupil expenditures are abundantly available in other sources.[3] The third aspect of current school expenditure, transportation costs, is largely unique to the rural schools. In a growing number of rural communities the formal education of many of the children cannot even begin until a significant part of the annual cost of running the schools has been spent in overcoming barriers due to distance between home and school.

Two tables are devoted to each of the three problem areas of rural school finance here examined. One of them shows, by ruralness, by State, and by geographic region, the lowest, the average, and the highest salaries and expenditures (tables 2, 4, and 6); the other presents distributions for each finance index in a wide range of discrete categories (tables 3, 5, and 7). The facts presented show, in graduated categories, the wide variations between States and regions in the amounts spent in behalf of the rural schools. The terms "lowest" and "highest", as used in tables 2, 4 and 6, means, respectively, the smallest or largest average amounts paid out by the several counties of each group of counties, State or region. A group or other area having but one rural county is represented by a single figure.

Some Outstanding Facts of Coverage

Summarizing the scope and organization of this study, attention is called to the data presented in table A. The rural counties included in this circular constitute 57 percent of all of the 3,068 counties of the continental United States. From the Southeast and Plains States, 70 percent or more of the counties qualified as rural on the criteria applied; from the New England and Mideast States, 15 percent or fewer qualified. Most of the counties of the States of the Far West and the Great Lakes were too industrialized or nonrural in character to be classified as rural.

Table A shows clearly that most of the rural counties of the Upper Southeast (74 percent) are of the single-district (county-unit) type (see table 1 for related data by States). On the other hand, all of those of the New England area, 98 percent of those of the Plains, and 96 percent of those of the Great Lakes are regarded as of the multi-district type.

It is important also to note the location of the rural counties, as grouped on the degree of ruralness. For example, in the Upper and Lower Southeastern and the Plains areas, large proportions (55, 42, and 44 percent, respectively) of the counties fall within the most rural (group A) class; in New England, the Far West, and the Mideast, by contrast, the following percentages, respectively, are found in this most rural

[3] Biennial Survey of Education in the United States, 1954-56, Chapter 5, Section I, *Statistics of Local School Systems—Cities. Current Expenditures Per Pupil in Public School Systems: Large Cities, 1955-56* (Circular No. 500). *Current Expenditures Per Pupil in Public School Systems: Small and Medium-Sized Cities, 1955-56* (Circular No. 501). Washington: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1959, 1958, 1957.

Table 1. - PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF RURAL COUNTIES BY TYPE OF ORGANIZATION, BY DEGREE OF RURALNESS, AND BY REGION: 1955-56

Region	Percent of all counties classified as rural	Counties classified by type of organization			Counties grouped by degree of ruralness[1]				
		Total	Multi-district	Single-district	Total	A	B	C	D
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Continental United States. . .	57	100	68	32	100	37	30	14	19
New England	15	100	100	–	100	–	90	–	10
Mideast	8	100	62	38	100	8	92	–	–
Great Lakes	39	100	96	4	100	23	33	18	26
Plains	73	100	98	2	100	44	22	13	21
Upper Southeast. .	76	100	26	74	100	55	24	10	11
Lower Southeast. .	70	100	57	43	100	42	19	20	19
Southwest	49	100	90	10	100	24	36	13	27
Rocky Mountain . .	61	100	78	22	100	17	67	3	13
Far West.	33	100	66	34	100	2	84	4	10

[1]Groups A, B, C and D described on page 2.
NOTE.—Because of rounding, detail may not add to total.

group: zero, 2, and 8. It should be noted in this connection that the group B counties, which are also 85 or more percent rural (but exempt from the "on-farm" criterion) are concentrated chiefly in the Mideast, New England, and the Far West. As has been pointed out, some of these group B counties are not typically rural in various respects.

Salaries of Instructional Staffs in Rural County School Systems

A quick review of the salary data (tables 2 and 3) reveals immediately that there are wide differences among the States in the average amounts paid to the instructional staffs of rural schools. The rural county showing the lowest average salary paid $1,640 (table 2); the one showing the highest paid $5,731, or nearly 3½ times as much. Except for Florida, Louisiana, and Kansas, the smallest of the lowest salaries were recorded from the rural counties of the Southeast and the Plains; the largest of the highest salaries were found in the Far West and in the Mideast. With the exception of the group B counties, the lowest salaries are found more often in the most rural counties (group A) and the highest in the least rural counties (group D). These differences, however, are for the most part small and sometimes they do not vary consistently with the degree of ruralness.

When all of the funds devoted to salaries of the instructional staffs are averaged for any group of rural counties, or on a statewide basis, the differences found were, of course, less extreme than when the lowest and highest salaries were compared, but they were still marked (table 2). For example, the five States paying the lowest salaries in their rural counties – Arkansas, Kentucky, Mississippi, Tennessee, and South Dakota – were found to average $2,189, $2,210, $2,376, $2,697, and $2,720, respectively; those paying the highest salaries in these counties – California, New York, Oregon, Washington, and Nevada – recorded averages of $4,791, $4,375, $4,373, $4,197, and $4,129. These differences still approach and, in the case of California, exceed a two to one ratio.

The rural salary picture becomes even clearer when one departs from the averages and examines *distributions* of salaries paid to the instructional staffs (table 3). For the 44 States, more than three-fourths of the counties paid average salaries ranging from $2,400 to $3,800. All of the rural counties of three States –

Arkansas, Kentucky, and Mississippi – fell below the $3,000 level; all of those of 6 others – California, Nevada, New Mexico, New York, Maryland and Washington – range above $3,600 per school year. Some States showed wide variations between the county paying the lowest and that paying the highest. For example, Texas counties ranged from a low of $2,206 to a high of $4,815, a ratio of more than 2 to 1; those of North Dakota ranged between $1,853 and $3,448, the highest being nearly twice as great as the lowest. On the other hand, some States – Oklahoma, Maryland and Maine – showed differences of only 10 to 15 percent between the lowest and the highest average salaries paid the instructional staffs.

Total Current Expenditures Per Pupil in Rural Counties

Since the salaries paid to the instructional staffs constitute two-thirds or more of the total current expenditures in these rural counties, it follows that the current expenditures per pupil (tables 4 and 5) reflect many of the same financial conditions as those shown by the salary tables. The same States and geographic areas which were lowest in average salaries were for the most part also lowest in average per pupil expenditures; those paying high salaries were likewise high in per pupil expenditures.

For the 1,750 rural counties of the 44 States, the average current expenditure per pupil in daily attendance was $221 per annum; the lowest was $93 and the highest $1,213[4] (table 4). Two States – New York and Wyoming – averaged more than $400 per rural pupil; 5 others – Montana, Washington, California, Nevada, and Oregon – averaged between $350 and $399, and 9 more between $300 and $349. Nearly all of these States reporting the highest average current expenditures are located in the regions of the Far West, the Rocky Mountains, and the Plains. Analysis reveals that in addition to the high salaries paid in the rural counties of these States, sparsity of population and low pupil-teacher ratios are also important factors in bringing about high annual expenditures per pupil. The opposite conditions, viz., low salaries, high population per square mile, and high pupil-teacher ratios, usually account for low per pupil expenditures.

In all of the States of the Southeast, except Louisiana and Florida, the average per pupil expenditures were found to be below $185, reflecting chiefly the lower salaries paid in these parts of the United States.

When the total current expenditures per pupil in average daily attendance in these rural counties are distributed by $25 intervals (table 5), it may be seen that in some States they are widely scattered, e.g. Colorado, Idaho, Oklahoma, Texas; in others they are narrowly grouped[5] e.g. Alabama, Arkansas, South Carolina, West Virginia, and Mississippi. It would therefore appear that the factors accounting for school current expenditures are many and varied in some States, and few and more uniform in others. It is also probable that the differences shown are due to the relative absence of certain uniform legal and financial controls in States of the former type, and to the greater presence of such influences in the latter.

Expenditures for Transporting Rural School Pupils

One of the items for which rural county school systems usually must spend more of their funds than do the city schools is pupil transportation. Data were therefore compiled to show the place of this item in rural school expenditure picture (tables 6 and 7). The data are arranged in a form similar to that for salaries and for total current expenditures.

It should be borne in mind that in computing the average per pupil transportation costs the

[4] This county, in a sparsely settled area of Northwest Texas, maintained in 1955-56 one public school at an annual cost of $19,400. It employed 2 teachers at $4,766 each and had an average daily attendance of 16 pupils. This county also recorded an average expenditure for transportation of $158 per pupil, the highest recorded for any rural county for the school year 1955-56.

[5] The number of cases, especially when it is small, obviously tends to affect the spread between the lowest and the highest expenditures for a given State or region.

total average daily attendance was divided into all of the monies spent for that purpose by the respective rural areas. Since invariably some of the pupils walk to school, the expenditures per pupil here reported are lower than they would have been if these costs could have been shown solely for those transported. The procedure used became necessary because many counties were unable to report the exact number of pupils transported during the school year; even fewer could have supplied accurate data to show how many rode each way or how far. Per pupil transportation costs based upon the total attendance do, however, have the merit of comparability from one group of counties to another, and from one State to another. Moreover, the funds spent for transporting the pupils to and from school are spent for that purpose. They cannot be used for instructional activities; thus the education of all of the pupils of the county is affected by the transportation expenditures. In any case, the transportation costs here presented (tables 6 and 7) are based upon the average daily attendance of all of the pupils and not merely upon those transported.

The average per pupil transportation costs in the rural counties varied from a low of zero in three sparsely inhabited counties located in Colorado, Nebraska, and Texas and having only a few small, local schools to a high of $100 in five other counties, also located chiefly in Western United States. The very low costs result when all or most of the pupils walk to the small country schools; the high costs result when many of the pupils of "the wide open spaces" are transported long distances to and from centralized rural schools.

In a total of 100 rural counties, more than half of them in the Western States, the average transportation cost per pupil was over $50 per pupil (table 7). For the entire 44 States involved in this survey, however, the average cost for this purpose was only $21 per pupil in average daily attendance. In the Upper and Lower Southeast and in the Southwest these average costs drop to $17 or $18; in the Mideast and Far West they run approximately twice that high. In their respective geographical regions, South Carolina and Texas show exceptionally low transportation costs; Louisiana and New Mexico show exceptionally high costs for this purpose.

Looking at the transportation costs distributed by $5 intervals (table 7), it may be seen that there were 41 counties spending less than $5 per pupil for this purpose; 18 of these counties were located in South Carolina and 15 in Nebraska. In the highest bracket of the range there were 47 counties, 33 of them located in the Western States, which spent over $60 per rural pupil for transportation.

In some of the Southeast States—Alabama, Arkansas, South Carolina, Mississippi, Virginia, West Virginia—these costs were uniformly low, and showed a narrow range; in other States—Colorado, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, Texas, Utah—these costs scattered widely from the low end of the distribution scale to the high end. Again it is evident that the States showing wide variations in transportation costs are for the most part the same States in which some of the rural counties are sparsely inhabited and are likely to have many small schools; others are more densely inhabited and have fewer but larger schools.

Rural-Urban Differences in Financial Indexes

This report has already given some attention to the effect of ruralness upon the financial indexes here examined (tables 2, 4 and 6). Moreover, for the 1,199 rural multi-district counties, detailed data by groups of rural counties, and for States, regions, and the large cities, will be found in the *Biennial Survey of 1954-56* (see footnote no. 1). To round out the picture presented by this circular, only nationwide data will be reviewed (table B). Supplementary nationwide data may also be found in the Office of Education Circular No. 565.[6]

It may be seen that with the exception of the group B counties (some of which are not typically rural), the several indexes show consistently that, as the cities become smaller and the counties become more rural, (1) the instructional staff salaries fall markedly, (2) the expenditures per pupil also drop markedly, and

[6] *Statistics of Rural Schools – A U.S. Summary, 1955-56.* Washington: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1959.

Table b. – SALARIES, CURRENT EXPENDITURE PER PUPIL, AND TRANSPORTATION COSTS OF RURAL COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEMS COMPARED WITH THOSE OF CITY SCHOOL SYSTEMS

Item	All rural counties	Rural county by groups[1]				City school systems by size		
		A	B	C	D	2,500-9,999	10,000-24,999	25,000 or more
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Average salary of instructional staff	$3,123	$2,882	$3,365	$3,105	$3,218	$4,034	$4,375	$5,068
Average current expenditure per pupil (A.D.A.).	221	200	256	212	224	273	286	321
Average transportation cost per pupil (A.D.A.).	21	21	25	20	19	10	5	3

[1]Groups A, B, C and D described on page 2.

(3) the differences in transportation costs are highest of all, but the direction is reversed. Transportation costs in the group A (most rural) counties are 7 times as great as those in the largest cities.

Financial Differences, by Type of County School Organization

When the three financial indexes for the rural counties are compared by type of county school organization (table C), the differences noted do not significantly or consistently point in a given direction. True, for the 44 States taken as a whole the average salary, total current expenditure, and transportation cost are, in each case, slightly higher for the multi-district counties than for the single-district (county-unit) counties; but supplementary data (not included in this circular) show that both the lowest and highest counties are almost invariably of the single-district type.

Further analysis of the data reveals, moreover, that the differences noted are often more closely related to the *geographic area* in which a given type of county school organization is found than to the type of school organization prevalent. School receipts and expenditures have for many reasons–social, economic, historic–been traditionally lower in the Southeastern States and higher in the Northern and Western States. Since the single-district counties predominate in the former and the multi-district counties in the latter, other factors tend to obscure clear comparison of the financial indexes by type of organization. Also, the unequal number and location of counties of each type of organization (col. 2) by geographic region must, obviously, be taken into account in examining this comparison.

Meaning of the Selected Indexes of Rural School Finance

The most significant fact emphasized by this supplementary study of selected indexes of rural school finance is that there are wide variations among the geographic regions, States, and counties in the salaries paid to the professional staffs and in the expenditures per pupil. When comparisons of these indexes are made on a rural-urban basis, these variations stand out even more prominently.

This study does not provide data to show what these variations mean in terms of the quality of education provided in the rural schools of the various areas involved. However, the relationships between the educational

Table C. – SALARIES, CURRENT EXPENDITURES PER PUPIL, AND TRANSPORTATION COSTS, BY TYPE OF COUNTY SCHOOL ORGANIZATION AND BY REGION

Region and type of county organization	Number of counties	Salaries			Expenditures			Transportation		
		Lowest	Average	Highest	Lowest	Average	Highest	Lowest	Average	Highest
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
U.S. (44 States):										
Multi-district . .	1,199	$1,655	$3,137	$5,146	$102	$237	$ 822	$ 0	$22	$130
Single-district .	551	1,640	3,090	5,731	93	188	1,213	3	20	158
New England:[1]										
Multi-district . .	10	2,601	3,040	3,135	180	240	349	15	26	46
Mideast:										
Multi-district . .	15	3,111	3,928	5,146	229	329	661	23	36	63
Single-district .	9	3,731	4,023	4,150	249	272	301	24	38	64
Great Lakes:										
Multi-district . .	164	2,557	3,581	4,373	187	272	431	11	30	77
Single-district .	7	3,222	3,612	4,015	237	278	323	19	36	67
Plains:										
Multi-district . .	445	2,165	3,005	4,093	155	291	532	0	27	91
Single-district .	7	2,072	2,842	3,121	316	374	531	27	41	63
Upper Southeast:										
Multi-district . .	70	1,771	2,482	3,474	105	144	244	7	15	36
Single-district .	199	1,640	2,746	3,477	93	164	248	5	18	51
Lower Southeast:										
Multi-district . .	195	1,655	2,701	3,446	102	149	208	3	13	35
Single-district .	264	1,971	3,225	3,805	110	192	413	3	21	75
Southwest:										
Multi-district . .	166	3,058	3,659	4,519	142	274	589	0	18	91
Single-district .	19	2,206	3,898	4,815	205	341	1,213	5	18	158
Rocky Mountain:										
Multi-district . .	101	2,814	3,513	4,258	198	334	794	0	33	116
Single-district .	29	2,606	3,483	3,987	186	259	655	5	22	94
Far West:										
Multi-district . .	33	3,446	4,431	4,925	308	371	822	18	34	130
Single-district .	17	3,611	4,598	5,731	338	424	811	8	40	102

[1] There are no county school systems in the New England States. When the supervisory unions or districts are grouped by counties they resemble the multi-district type of organization. They are therefore so grouped and classified in this circular.

expenditures and the quality (amount, kind and effectiveness) of the education purchased have been carefully studied over the years. A summary of such studies has recently been compiled.[7] It concluded that a higher quality education is generally provided in school systems which spend larger amounts in their schools. That summary suggests that this usually means that the schools with higher cost levels tend to attract better prepared teachers, to give increased attention to the needs of individual pupils, to show greater pupil achievements, to use more and better teaching aids, and to have more functionally designed facilities than the schools with lower cost levels. This summary cautions that this relationship is complex and difficult to measure, but concludes that in most cases it seems safe to infer that the variations in the financial indexes do point to similar variations in the quality of education provided.

Relation of Staff Salaries to Family Incomes

One of the most obvious and recurrent findings revealed by the selected indexes of rural school finance is the wide variation among the counties, States, and geographic regions of this study. The question arises: What causes the differences noted? The possible causes are evidently numerous and complex. They

[7] National Education Association. *Research Bulletin*, 37: 2: 41-44, April 1959.

could grow out of the fundamental policies which have governed the history and development of public education in each State and region; they could be demographic in origin; or they could be chiefly economic in character. The differences found are probably the product of a combination of these complex factors.

Since the public schools are to a large extent dependent for support upon tax resources, which in turn are largely dependent upon the annual family incomes, it seemed that a study of the relationships between the selected school finance indexes and similar indexes of family income would provide some significant information. To keep this effort from bogging down in complexities, it was decided to make a study of the relationships between one of the school cost indexes, namely average staff salary paid in each county, and one index of tax paying ability, namely the median family income in each county. For the same reason it was also decided to compare these indexes for representative States and counties rather than for all of them.

There has already been much discussion of the nature of the salary index. Little more needs to be said about this financial measure other than to point out that this is often an important yardstick of the educational status of the school system of a county or a State. The salary level not only can determine to a large extent the quality of the classroom teaching provided, but since it also includes the principals, supervisors, and other professional personnel of these rural school systems, the salary paid can affect all parts of the instructional programs provided. Moreover, it is well known that the instructional personnel of the schools move readily from one county or State to another as salary levels fluctuate. High salaries tend to attract and retain high-quality performance in the schools as elsewhere.

The family income indexes presented for the counties, States, and regions are averages of medians drawn from a study of the Bureau of the Census for the year 1949.[8] A family's income was considered to be the sum of all the income (less losses) received during the calendar year by the whole family – wages or salaries, income from self-employment, rental receipts, interests, dividends, pensions, etc. They were based upon a 20-percent sample of all persons 14 years old and over who were members of the families supplying the data.

Data showing relationships between school salaries and family incomes are here presented for 23 States, or roughly half of the 44 States in this study (table D). These 23 States were selected to represent as closely as possible all parts of each of the 4 major regions of the United States. In order to show the relationship between school salaries and family incomes in the rural counties most vividly, this part of the study proceeded by ranking all of the rural counties of each State included according to salary levels. It then found 25 percent of the counties which paid the highest average school salaries and 25 percent of those which paid the lowest average school salaries. Thus, each of the 23 States in this part of the study is represented by half of all its counties. Together these rural counties totaled 542.

A number of interesting relationships between the salary indexes and the income indexes may be noted for the several States and geographic areas. For example, the school salary indexes are, in every case but one, higher than the family income indexes. For some of the States, the salary indexes are more than twice as great as the family incomes (table D, cols. 4 and 7). This is particularly true of the top quarter of rural counties in the Southeast States. The data for the bottom quarter counties reflect similar but usually slightly smaller differences State for State. For the 23 States, the rural school salaries are about one and two-thirds as great as the family incomes.

When the data in table D are studied in relation to the financial aids provided to the schools from sources outside these rural counties,[9] it is found that in some States at least a part of the differences noted between the school

[8] *County and City Data Book, 1956.* Washington: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1957. Table 2, col. 15. (The year 1949 is the latest date for which family income data were compiled by counties.)

[9] See table S, in *Statistics of Local School Systems: 1955-56 Rural Counties,* (Chapter 3, Section IV of the Biennial Survey, *op. cit.*)

Table D. – RELATIONSHIP OF AVERAGE SALARY OF INSTRUCTIONAL STAFF AND MEDIAN FAMILY INCOME, FOR SELECTED STATES, BY GEOGRAPHIC REGIONS

Region and State	Rural counties in top quarter of distribution of average salary			Rural counties in bottom quarter of distribution of average salary		
	School salary index,[1] 1955-56	Family income index,[2] 1949	Salary income ratio[3]	School salary index,[1] 1955-56	Family income index,[2] 1949	Salary income ratio[3]
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Total 23 Selected States	$3,448	$2,067	1.67	$2,822	$1,769	1.60
North Atlantic	3,609	2,408	1.50	3,025	2,157	1.40
Maine-Vermont[4]	3,082	2,287	1.35	2,613	2,207	1.18
Pennsylvania	3,960	2,489	1.59	3,300	2,124	1.55
Great Lakes and Plains	3,403	2,380	1.43	2,711	2,019	1.34
Illinois	3,856	2,517	1.53	3,185	2,045	1.56
Michigan	4,097	2,475	1.66	3,341	1,918	1.74
Minnesota	3,760	2,573	1.46	3,054	2,451	1.25
Missouri	3,062	1,842	1.66	2,470	1,335	1.85
Nebraska	3,103	2,517	1.23	2,407	2,242	1.07
North Dakota	3,107	2,795	1.11	2,288	2,529	.90
Ohio	3,799	2,549	1.49	3,259	1,836	1.77
Southeast	3,043	1,531	1.99	2,511	1,252	2.01
Florida	3,962	1,754	2.26	3,482	1,211	2.88
Georgia	3,289	1,111	2.96	2,733	1,408	1.94
Kentucky	3,593	2,955	1.22	2,554	1,521	1.68
Mississippi	2,548	1,145	2.23	2,131	793	2.69
North Carolina	3,392	1,537	2.21	3,033	1,434	2.12
West Virginia	3,115	1,908	1.63	2,583	1,747	1.48
West and Southwest	4,046	2,482	1.63	3,363	2,261	1.49
California	5,274	3,192	1.65	4,463	2,768	1.61
Colorado	3,711	2,728	1.36	2,968	2,102	1.41
Idaho	3,759	3,079	1.22	3,110	2,629	1.18
Montana	4,022	2,823	1.42	3,211	2,838	1.13
Oklahoma	3,601	1,886	1.91	3,257	1,639	1.99
Texas	4,023	2,260	1.78	3,340	2,185	1.53
Washington	4,932	3,524	1.40	3,864	2,498	1.55

[1] Average salary of the instructional staff of one-fourth of the counties in this study.
[2] Indexes computed as follows: Sum of median family incomes divided by the number of counties (1949 is the most recent year for which family income data are available by counties.)
[3] Salary index divided by income index.
[4] Because Maine and Vermont each had only 4 counties which qualified as rural, and since the data for these States were similar in character, their data were combined for this part of the study.

salary and the family income indexes is due to financial school aids from State funds. That is to say, that where the State aids provided are known to be high, the gap between the salary index and the income index tends also to be high, and vice versa. For example, in the rural counties of Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, and North Carolina, in which more than half of the school funds of the rural counties came from Federal and State sources, the differences between these indexes are high; whereas in Idaho, Montana, Nebraska, and North Dakota, in which nearly all of these funds came from local sources, the salary-income differences are small.

A second point of interest revealed by a comparison of school salaries and family incomes is the general agreement between them.

States in which school salary levels are high usually also show high family incomes and vice versa. For example, as a group the western States rank highest in the average school salaries paid; they also rank highest in the average family incomes reported. States of the Southeast, on the other hand, rank lowest in average rural school salaries and they also rank lowest in family incomes. This observation holds equally for the top and the bottom quarters of salaries paid.

However, some glaring exceptions to this observation may be noted. For example, the salary averages for Florida rank high despite the low average incomes shown; North Dakota and Nebraska show the reverse situation.

Of course, these comparisons left out of consideration the counties which ranked within the inter-quartile salary ranges, that is to say, between the 25th and 75th percentiles. When all the rural counties of the States containing 25 or more such counties were subjected to computations to determine the degree of correlation between the school salaries and the family incomes, it was found that the coefficients of correlation were positive but varied from a high of .75 for Michigan and a low of .17 for Montana. For the entire 1,011 rural counties involved in this special computation, the coefficient of correlation was .48.

A further word of caution relating to these comparisons is suggested. The fact that school salaries are almost invariably higher than family incomes should not be construed to mean that they are higher than they should be. It should be borne in mind that most of the families in the rural counties of the present study are farmers, artisans, laborers, and local merchants. These occupations do not as a rule require professional preparation and a delayed earning period. Salaries of school personnel should obviously be expected to be more nearly comparable to salaries of other professional people rather than to those of the population of the rural counties generally. This portion of this study does, however, permit the reader to see how the salaries of school personnel in the rural counties compare, and to note the role of family incomes in providing local tax resources to support at least the salary aspect of the schools.

Table 1. – NUMBER OF RURAL COUNTIES BY GROUPS, TYPE OF ORGANIZATION, REGION, AND STATE: 1955-56

Region and State	Total Rural Counties	Groups by type of organization		Groups by degree of ruralness[1]							
		Multi-district	Single-district	Multi-district				Single-district			
				A	B	C	D	A	B	C	D
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Total 44[2] States	**1,750**	**1,199**	**551**	**397**	**340**	**186**	**276**	**253**	**193**	**53**	**52**
NEW ENGLAND	**10**	**10**	**0**	**0**	**9**	**0**	**1**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**
Maine	4	4	0	0	3	0	1	0	0	0	0
Massachusetts	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
New Hampshire	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vermont	4	4	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0
MIDEAST	**24**	**15**	**9**	**1**	**14**	**0**	**0**	**1**	**8**	**0**	**0**
Maryland	9	0	9	0	0	0	0	1	8	0	0
New York	4	4	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pennsylvania	11	11	0	1	10	0	0	0	0	0	0
GREAT LAKES	**171**	**164**	**7**	**38**	**53**	**31**	**42**	**1**	**4**	**0**	**2**
Illinois	34	29	5	4	14	5	6	1	2	0	2
Indiana	35	34	1	6	9	6	13	0	1	0	0
Michigan	37	37	0	7	19	6	5	0	0	0	0
Ohio	25	25	0	8	6	4	7	0	0	0	0
Wisconsin	40	39	1	13	5	10	11	0	1	0	0
PLAINS	**452**	**445**	**7**	**196**	**95**	**60**	**94**	**3**	**4**	**0**	**0**
Iowa	69	69	0	14	9	21	25	0	0	0	0
Kansas	64	63	1	16	33	4	10	0	1	0	0
Minnesota	66	65	1	24	5	13	23	0	1	0	0
Missouri	88	88	0	46	9	13	20	0	0	0	0
Nebraska	70	68	2	35	19	5	9	1	1	0	0
North Dakota	44	44	0	28	12	0	4	0	0	0	0
South Dakota	51	48	3	33	8	4	3	2	1	0	0
UPPER SOUTHEAST	**269**	**70**	**199**	**24**	**9**	**17**	**20**	**124**	**55**	**11**	**9**
Kentucky	94	46	48	20	7	10	9	42	4	1	1
Tennessee	77	24	53	4	2	7	11	38	5	8	2
Virginia[3]	66	0	66	0	0	0	0	30	32	2	2
West Virginia	32	0	32	0	0	0	0	14	14	0	4
LOWER SOUTHEAST	**459**	**195**	**264**	**79**	**14**	**49**	**53**	**116**	**72**	**41**	**35**
Alabama	45	14	31	5	0	7	2	19	4	7	1
Arkansas	62	62	0	24	3	15	20	0	0	0	0
Florida	27	0	27	0	0	0	0	3	19	4	1
Georgia	121	14	107	0	2	6	6	49	27	14	17
Louisiana	36	0	36	0	0	0	0	9	11	6	10
Mississippi	70	68	2	39	4	11	12	2	0	0	0
North Carolina	69	25	44	7	3	5	10	28	9	5	2
South Carolina	29	12	17	4	2	3	3	6	2	5	4
SOUTHWEST	**185**	**166**	**19**	**40**	**53**	**24**	**49**	**4**	**14**	**0**	**1**
Arizona	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
New Mexico	11	11	0	1	9	1	0	0	0	0	0
Oklahoma	44	44	0	15	4	10	15	0	0	0	0
Texas	129	110	19	24	39	13	34	4	14	0	1
ROCKY MOUNTAIN	**130**	**101**	**29**	**18**	**68**	**3**	**12**	**4**	**19**	**1**	**5**
Colorado	41	37	4	4	28	0	5	0	3	1	0
Idaho	27	18	9	1	12	2	3	1	5	0	3
Montana	36	36	0	12	21	1	2	0	0	0	0
Utah	17	2	15	0	2	0	0	3	10	0	2
Wyoming	9	8	1	1	5	0	2	0	1	0	0
FAR WEST	**50**	**33**	**17**	**1**	**25**	**2**	**5**	**0**	**17**	**0**	**0**
California	15	11	4	0	7	1	3	0	4	0	0
Nevada	11	0	11	0	0	0	0	0	11	0	0
Oregon	12	11	1	1	8	0	2	0	1	0	0
Washington	12	11	1	0	10	1	0	0	1	0	0

[1]Groups A, B, C and D described on page 2.
[2]Four States – Connecticut, Delaware, New Jersey, and Rhode Island--and the District of Columbia were found to contain no counties which qualified as rural under the criteria employed.
[3]Ten of the 66 rural units reporting consist of 2 counties each.

Table 2. – LOWEST, AVERAGE, AND HIGHEST SALARIES OF INSTRUCTIONAL STAFFS, BY GROUPS OF RURAL COUNTIES, REGION, AND STATE: 1955-56

Region and State	Range of salaries—all groups			Range of salaries—groups[1] by degree of ruralness											
				A			B			C			D		
	Lowest	Average	Highest	Lowest	Average	Highest	Lowest	Average	Highest	Lowest	Average	Highest	Lowest	Average	Highest
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Total 44 States	**1,640**	**3,123**	**5,731**	**1,640**	**2,882**	**4,457**	**2,023**	**3,365**	**5,731**	**1,980**	**3,105**	**4,708**	**1,771**	**3,218**	**4,925**
NEW ENGLAND	**2,601**	**3,040**	**3,135**	–	–	–	**2,601**	**3,091**	**3,135**	–	–	–	(3)	**2,760**	(3)
Maine	2,601	2,978	3,028	–	–	–	2,601	3,060	3,028	–	–	–	(2)	2,760	(3)
Massachusetts	(3)	3,519	(3)	–	–	–	(3)	3,519	(3)	–	–	–	–	–	–
New Hampshire	(3)	3,297	(3)	–	–	–	(3)	3,297	(3)	–	–	–	–	–	–
Vermont	2,783	2,970	3,135	–	–	–	2,783	2,970	3,135	–	–	–	–	–	–
MIDEAST	**3,111**	**3,964**	**5,146**	**3,360**	**3,598**	**3,766**	**3,111**	**3,982**	**5,146**	–	–	–	–	–	–
Maryland	3,731	4,023	4,150	(3)	3,766	(3)	3,731	4,043	4,150	–	–	–	–	–	–
New York	4,137	4,375	5,146	–	–	–	4,137	4,375	5,146	–	–	–	–	–	–
Pennsylvania	3,111	3,694	4,080	(3)	3,360	(3)	3,111	3,710	4,080	–	–	–	–	–	–
GREAT LAKES	**2,557**	**3,582**	**4,373**	**2,621**	**3,408**	**3,941**	**2,557**	**3,598**	**4,170**	**3,040**	**3,608**	**4,115**	**2,975**	**3,653**	**4,373**
Illinois	2,621	3,549	4,015	2,621	3,477	3,633	3,221	3,681	3,984	3,255	3,595	3,870	3,102	3,589	4,015
Indiana	2,557	3,793	4,258	3,174	3,678	3,927	2,557	3,535	4,024	3,443	3,753	3,979	3,497	3,939	4,258
Michigan	3,165	3,851	4,373	3,285	3,729	3,941	3,165	3,754	4,170	3,816	3,919	4,115	3,446	3,990	4,373
Ohio	3,142	3,558	4,095	3,142	3,335	3,514	3,432	3,664	4,095	3,527	3,669	3,790	3,327	3,580	3,798
Wisconsin	2,732	3,258	3,597	2,732	3,194	3,597	3,051	3,189	3,471	3,040	3,261	3,544	2,975	3,317	3,541
PLAINS	**2,072**	**3,005**	**4,093**	**2,072**	**2,850**	**3,887**	**2,146**	**3,094**	**4,157**	**2,426**	**3,022**	**3,734**	**2,330**	**3,129**	**4,093**
Iowa	2,118	2,986	3,460	2,118	2,825	3,143	2,464	2,975	3,396	2,730	3,016	3,234	2,394	3,039	3,460
Kansas	3,014	3,386	4,019	3,095	3,329	3,604	3,014	3,391	4,157	3,324	3,384	3,361	3,169	3,443	3,693
Minnesota	2,849	3,401	4,093	2,941	3,288	3,887	3,186	3,378	3,703	2,849	3,281	3,734	2,942	3,556	4,093
Missouri	2,189	2,756	3,294	2,189	2,680	3,221	2,500	2,926	3,294	2,543	2,798	3,071	2,330	2,790	3,157
Nebraska	2,189	2,745	3,526	2,189	2,633	3,526	(3)	2,932	(3)	2,426	2,698	2,925	2,495	2,783	3,046
North Dakota	1,853	2,774	3,448	3,448	2,702	1,853	2,477	2,932	3,176	–	–	–	2,634	2,811	2,958
South Dakota	2,072	2,720	3,073	2,072	2,704	3,073	2,146	2,691	2,932	2,627	2,797	2,915	2,467	2,757	3,006
UPPER SOUTHEAST	**1,640**	**2,666**	**3,477**	**1,640**	**2,541**	**3,421**	**2,023**	**2,836**	**3,474**	**2,072**	**2,638**	**3,093**	**1,771**	**2,717**	**3,239**
Kentucky	1,640	2,210	3,474	1,640	2,081	2,920	2,023	2,343	3,474	2,072	2,317	2,817	1,771	2,376	2,751
Tennessee	1,975	2,697	3,139	1,975	2,607	3,019	2,415	2,673	2,901	2,443	2,771	3,095	2,485	2,790	3,139
Virginia	2,500	3,005	3,477	2,579	2,949	3,421	2,500	3,049	3,431	2,988	3,019	3,048	2,854	3,066	3,239
West Virginia	2,420	2,862	3,182	2,420	2,766	3,172	2,541	2,910	3,120	–	–	–	2,662	2,879	3,182
LOWER SOUTHEAST	**1,655**	**2,956**	**3,805**	**1,655**	**2,884**	**3,998**	**2,663**	**3,189**	**4,211**	**1,980**	**2,953**	**3,757**	**1,964**	**2,950**	**4,219**
Alabama	2,491	3,170	3,506	2,850	3,138	3,257	2,491	3,035	3,268	3,054	3,225	3,377	3,316	3,291	3,335
Arkansas	1,674	2,189	2,705	1,674	2,070	2,411	2,163	2,272	2,432	1,980	2,193	2,705	1,964	2,248	2,546
Florida	3,383	3,617	4,211	3,572	3,642	3,854	3,421	3,648	4,211	3,383	3,490	3,512	(3)	3,890	(3)
Georgia	2,411	2,945	3,805	2,411	2,960	3,805	2,775	2,898	2,849	2,803	2,989	3,270	2,610	2,916	3,360
Louisiana	3,008	3,752	4,219	3,578	3,801	3,998	3,254	3,761	4,039	3,008	3,589	3,757	3,277	3,835	4,219
Mississippi	1,655	2,376	2,647	1,655	2,338	2,574	2,356	2,479	2,590	2,213	2,346	2,647	2,224	2,467	2,629
North Carolina	2,716	3,250	3,489	2,716	3,199	3,489	2,876	3,184	3,400	3,191	3,301	3,343	2,916	3,321	3,446
South Carolina	2,370	2,817	3,239	2,370	2,694	2,899	2,647	2,685	2,680	2,777	2,877	3,239	2,541	2,903	3,194
SOUTHWEST	**2,206**	**3,666**	**4,815**	**2,206**	**3,572**	**4,457**	**3,032**	**3,760**	**4,815**	**3,093**	**3,648**	**3,956**	**3,322**	**3,669**	**3,995**
Arizona	(3)	4,177	(3)	–	–	–	(3)	4,177	(3)	–	–	–	–	–	–
New Mexico	3,812	4,125	4,519	(2)	4,177	(2)	3,812	4,072	4,519	(2)	4,319	(2)	–	–	–
Oklahoma	3,093	3,450	3,750	3,149	3,435	3,750	3,095	3,326	3,640	3,093	3,448	3,534	3,322	3,484	3,655
Texas	2,206	3,718	4,815	2,206	3,672	4,457	3,032	3,695	4,815	3,533	3,730	3,956	3,355	3,746	3,995
ROCKY MOUNTAIN	**2,606**	**3,507**	**4,258**	**2,814**	**3,377**	**4,039**	**2,606**	**3,501**	**4,258**	**3,516**	**3,705**	**3,731**	**2,988**	**3,536**	**4,173**
Colorado	2,669	3,392	4,258	2,843	3,199	3,273	2,669	3,319	4,258	(3)	3,987	(3)	3,186	3,449	3,771
Idaho	2,928	3,462	4,124	(3)	3,401	(3)	2,928	3,502	4,124	3,516	3,573	3,706	3,102	3,269	3,544
Montana	2,814	3,677	4,243	2,814	3,498	4,039	3,213	3,724	4,243	(2)	3,704	(3)	3,700	3,802	3,906
Utah	2,606	3,551	3,964	3,280	3,364	3,457	2,606	3,500	3,964	–	–	–	3,698	3,743	3,769
Wyoming	2,918	3,636	4,173	(3)	3,219	(3)	3,004	3,495	3,934	–	–	–	3,632	3,947	4,173
FAR WEST	**3,446**	**4,459**	**5,731**		**4,788**		**3,446**	**4,419**	**5,731**	**4,079**	**4,380**	**4,708**	**4,130**	**4,608**	**4,925**
California	4,280	4,791	5,731	–	–	–	4,280	4,759	5,731	(2)	4,708	(2)	4,730	4,851	4,925
Nevada	3,611	4,129	4,530	–	–	–	3,611	4,129	4,530	–	–	–	–	–	–
Oregon	3,446	4,373	4,788	(3)	4,788	(3)	3,446	4,416	4,776	–	–	–	4,130	4,185	4,337
Washington	3,749	4,197	4,673	–	–	–	3,749	4,223	4,673	(2)	4,079	(2)	–	–	–

[1] Groups A, B, C and D described on page 2.
[2] Four States – Connecticut, Delaware, New Jersey, and Rhode Island—and the District of Columbia were found to contain no counties which qualified as rural under the criteria employed.
[3] One county only.

Table 3. – DISTRIBUTION OF RURAL COUNTIES ACCORDING TO AVERAGE SALARIES PAID INSTRUCTIONAL STAFFS, BY REGION AND STATE: 1955-56

Region and State	Number of Counties by salary interval (In dollars)														
	Under 2,000	2,000-2,199	2,200-2,399	2,400-2,599	2,600-2,799	2,800-2,999	3,000-3,199	3,200-3,399	3,400-3,599	3,600-3,799	3,800-3,999	4,000-4,199	4,200-4,399	4,400-4,599	4,600- and over
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Total 44[1] States	**41**	**67**	**93**	**134**	**171**	**237**	**238**	**213**	**215**	**150**	**84**	**58**	**20**	**9**	**20**
NEW ENGLAND	---	---	---	---	**4**	**2**	**2**	**1**	**1**	---	---	---	---	---	---
Maine	---	---	---	---	3	---	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Massachusetts	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1	---	---	---	---	---	---
New Hampshire	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Vermont	---	---	---	---	1	2	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
MIDEAST	---	---	---	---	---	---	**1**	**1**	**1**	**7**	**3**	**8**	**2**	---	**1**
Maryland	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	2	1	6	---	---	---
New York	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1	2	---	1
Pennsylvania	---	---	---	---	---	---	1	1	1	5	2	1	---	---	---
GREAT LAKES	---	---	---	1	**2**	**2**	**25**	**24**	**47**	**28**	**25**	**15**	**2**	---	---
Illinois	---	---	---	---	1	---	1	9	11	7	4	1	---	---	---
Indiana	---	---	---	1	---	---	1	---	7	7	13	5	1	---	---
Michigan	---	---	---	---	---	---	1	4	9	6	8	8	1	---	---
Ohio	---	---	---	---	---	---	2	4	10	8	---	1	---	---	---
Wisconsin	---	---	---	---	1	2	20	7	10	---	---	---	---	---	---
PLAINS	**3**	**7**	**18**	**47**	**87**	**94**	**71**	**58**	**45**	**14**	**5**	**3**	---	---	---
Iowa	---	1	1	4	12	16	20	14	1	---	---	---	---	---	---
Kansas	---	---	---	---	---	---	13	19	22	8	---	2	---	---	---
Minnesota	---	---	---	---	---	7	9	20	18	6	5	1	---	---	---
Missouri	---	1	5	13	32	22	12	3	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Nebraska	---	1	7	14	16	21	7	1	3	---	---	---	---	---	---
North Dakota	3	1	2	6	11	11	8	1	1	---	---	---	---	---	---
South Dakota	---	3	3	10	16	17	2	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
UPPER SOUTHEAST	**23**	**32**	**26**	**43**	**38**	**60**	**36**	**6**	**5**	---	---	---	---	---	---
Kentucky	22	30	21	12	5	3	---	---	1	---	---	---	---	---	---
Tennessee	1	2	5	25	23	17	4	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Virginia	---	---	---	2	4	28	22	6	4	---	---	---	---	---	---
West Virginia	---	---	---	4	6	12	10	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
LOWER SOUTHEAST	**15**	**28**	**48**	**43**	**38**	**71**	**81**	**73**	**21**	**23**	**11**	**5**	**2**	---	---
Alabama	---	---	---	1	---	3	21	19	1	---	---	---	---	---	---
Arkansas	11	24	20	6	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Florida	---	---	---	---	---	---	1	7	9	8	---	1	1	---	---
Georgia	---	---	---	3	17	56	37	6	1	---	1	---	---	---	---
Louisiana	---	---	---	---	---	---	1	2	3	15	10	4	1	---	---
Mississippi	4	4	27	30	5	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
North Carolina	---	---	---	---	1	4	19	38	7	---	---	---	---	---	---
South Carolina	---	---	1	3	14	8	2	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
SOUTHWEST	---	---	1	---	---	---	**5**	**22**	**60**	**51**	**26**	**10**	**4**	**4**	**2**
Arizona	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1	---	---
New Mexico	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1	6	3	1	---
Oklahoma	---	---	---	---	---	---	3	10	26	5	---	---	---	---	---
Texas	---	---	1	---	---	---	2	12	34	46	25	4	---	3	2
ROCKY MOUNTAIN	---	---	---	---	**2**	**8**	**17**	**28**	**34**	**25**	**7**	**7**	**2**	---	---
Colorado	---	---	---	---	1	3	10	12	9	4	1	---	1	---	---
Idaho	---	---	---	---	---	2	3	8	10	2	---	2	---	---	---
Montana	---	---	---	---	---	2	1	4	10	10	4	4	1	---	---
Utah	---	---	---	---	1	---	1	4	3	7	1	---	---	---	---
Wyoming	---	---	---	---	---	1	2	---	2	2	1	1	---	---	---
FAR WEST	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	**1**	**2**	**7**	**10**	**8**	**5**	**17**
California	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1	2	12
Nevada	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1	5	1	3	1	---
Oregon	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1	---	---	4	3	1	3
Washington	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1	2	5	1	1	2

[1]Four States – Connecticut, Delaware, New Jersey, and Rhode Island—and the District of Columbia were found to contain no counties which qualify as rural under the criteria employed.

Table 4. – LOWEST, AVERAGE, AND HIGHEST TOTAL EXPENDITURES PER PUPIL (A.D.A.), BY GROUPS OF RURAL COUNTIES, REGION AND STATE: 1955-56

Region and State	Range of expenditures–all groups			Range of expenditures–groups[1] by degree of ruralness											
				A			B			C			D		
	Lowest	Average	Highest	Lowest	Average	Highest	Lowest	Average	Highest	Lowest	Average	Highest	Lowest	Average	Highest
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Total 44[2] States	**93**	**221**	**1,213**	**93**	**200**	**830**	**105**	**256**	**1,213**	**104**	**212**	**589**	**109**	**224**	**406**
NEW ENGLAND	**180**	**240**	**349**	---	---	---	**182**	**252**	**349**	---	---	---	**(3)**	**180**	**(3)**
Maine	180	226	349	---	---	---	182	245	349	---	---	---	(3)	180	(3)
Massachusetts	(3)	330	(3)	---	---	---	(3)	330	(3)	---	---	---	---	---	---
New Hampshire	(3)	314	(3)	---	---	---	(3)	314	(3)	---	---	---	---	---	---
Vermont	220	229	236	---	---	---	220	229	236	---	---	---	---	---	---
MIDEAST	**229**	**306**	**661**	**260**	**263**	**266**	**229**	**309**	**661**	---	---	---	---	---	---
Maryland	249	272	301	(3)	266	(3)	249	273	301	---	---	---	---	---	---
New York	400	436	661	---	---	---	400	436	661	---	---	---	---	---	---
Pennsylvania	229	285	363	(3)	260	(3)	229	286	363	---	---	---	---	---	---
GREAT LAKES	**187**	**272**	**431**	**190**	**269**	**338**	**187**	**287**	**431**	**212**	**272**	**394**	**204**	**261**	**345**
Illinois	221	315	413	280	296	338	237	334	413	---	---	---	221	288	345
Indiana	187	253	377	226	264	303	187	253	377	---	---	---	---	---	---
Michigan	245	275	431	245	280	301	259	292	431	254	265	277	249	265	280
Ohio	190	233	283	190	228	269	213	233	273	219	241	269	204	234	283
Wisconsin	248	288	388	248	289	314	322	349	388	---	---	---	---	---	---
PLAINS	**155**	**291**	**532**	**168**	**287**	**532**	**180**	**314**	**509**	**182**	**291**	**369**	**155**	**284**	**397**
Iowa	262	310	378	282	311	340	303	321	354	270	314	369	262	303	378
Kansas	287	348	509	(3)	348	(3)	288	368	509	---	---	---	---	---	---
Minnesota	254	311	421	(3)	317	(3)	299	326	341	---	---	---	---	---	---
Missouri	155	226	397	168	227	343	180	238	337	182	228	309	155	221	397
Nebraska	247	294	532	251	305	532	255	302	437	---	---	---	---	---	---
North Dakota	222	279	406	222	283	406	241	281	338	---	---	---	254	261	276
South Dakota	238	305	440	252	310	440	244	298	382	---	---	---	---	---	---
UPPER SOUTHEAST	**93**	**158**	**248**	**93**	**155**	**248**	**105**	**161**	**224**	**115**	**154**	**244**	**117**	**162**	**211**
Kentucky	93	133	244	93	132	189	105	121	160	115	143	244	117	154	207
Tennessee	124	157	221	124	154	221	129	157	190	138	157	189	142	160	192
Virginia	111	173	241	147	170	241	111	175	224	157	179	209	162	176	188
West Virginia	159	182	248	174	196	248	159	174	213	---	---	---	164	185	211
LOWER SOUTHEAST	**102**	**169**	**413**	**102**	**162**	**350**	**129**	**202**	**413**	**104**	**167**	**268**	**109**	**167**	**290**
Alabama	152	170	201	154	170	201	---	---	---	155	173	188	152	162	177
Arkansas	104	130	176	109	133	176	144	153	159	104	127	171	109	130	151
Florida	212	253	366	242	272	350	212	259	366	218	234	235	(2)	226	(2)
Georgia	150	183	268	(2)	191	(2)	150	180	268	150	179	204	150	179	208
Louisiana	212	255	413	220	250	318	212	278	413	221	240	268	217	253	290
Mississippi	102	137	175	102	136	175	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
North Carolina	141	165	230	142	161	184	159	171	230	157	168	179	149	170	183
South Carolina	126	151	196	126	143	162	129	152	196	138	153	165	143	154	171
SOUTHWEST	**142**	**276**	**1,213**	**205**	**272**	**830**	**209**	**318**	**1,213**	**227**	**266**	**589**	**142**	**259**	**331**
Arizona	(3)	343	(3)	---	---	---	(3)	343	(2)	---	---	---	---	---	---
New Mexico	256	316	470	(3)	386	(3)	281	329	470	(2)	256	(2)	---	---	---
Oklahoma	142	254	415	214	258	415	262	290	374	227	258	366	142	244	330
Texas	205	282	1,213	205	282	830	209	316	1,213	239	273	589	229	266	331
ROCKY MOUNTAIN	**186**	**318**	**794**	**221**	**371**	**655**	**211**	**335**	**528**	**222**	**269**	**295**	**198**	**285**	**406**
Colorado	231	324	794	(3)	381	(2)	231	348	794	---	---	---	---	---	---
Idaho	186	245	526	221	233	256	211	280	526	---	---	---	186	213	256
Montana	303	393	565	389	454	565	303	386	497	(2)	323	(2)	336	366	402
Utah	221	259	655	(3)	300	(2)	221	257	321	---	---	---	---	---	---
Wyoming	332	410	528	(3)	511	(2)	332	405	528	---	---	---	---	---	---
FAR WEST	**308**	**379**	**822**	**(3)**	**595**	**(2)**	**308**	**390**	**822**	**351**	**355**	**360**	**332**	**351**	**385**
California	326	383	822	---	---	---	326	428	822	---	---	---	---	---	---
Nevada	328	377	709	---	---	---	328	377	709	---	---	---	---	---	---
Oregon	322	373	652	(2)	595	(2)	322	372	652	---	---	---	---	---	---
Washington	308	385	492	---	---	---	308	390	492	---	---	---	---	---	---

[1] Groups A, B, C and D described on page 2.
[2] Four States – Connecticut, Delaware, New Jersey, and Rhode Island--and the District of Columbia were found to contain no counties which qualified as rural under the criteria employed.
[3] One county only.

Table 5. – DISTRIBUTION OF RURAL COUNTIES ACCORDING TO AVERAGE EXPENDITURES PER PUPIL (A.D.A.), BY REGION AND STATE: 1955-56

Region and State	Number of counties by per pupil cost interval																
	Under $125	$125-$149	$150-$174	$175-$199	$200-$224	$225-$249	$250-$274	$275-$299	$300-$324	$325-$349	$350-$374	$375-$399	$400-$424	$425-$449	$450-$499	$500-$549	$550 or more
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Total 44[1] States	58	164	233	181	100	119	181	194	168	112	72	59	32	24	18	18	17
NEW ENGLAND	---	---	---	3	1	3	---	---	1	2	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Maine	---	---	---	3	---	---	---	---	---	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Massachusetts	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
New Hampshire	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Vermont	---	---	---	---	1	3	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
MIDEAST	---	---	---	---	---	3	6	5	3	2	1	---	2	---	---	1	1
Maryland	---	---	---	---	---	1	3	4	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
New York	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	2	---	---	1	1
Pennsylvania	---	---	---	---	---	2	3	1	2	2	1	---	---	---	---	---	---
GREAT LAKES	---	---	---	2	12	26	45	40	21	13	1	7	1	1	---	---	---
Illinois	---	---	---	---	1	3	2	9	6	7	1	4	1	---	---	---	---
Indiana	---	---	---	1	5	10	11	4	3	---	---	1	---	---	---	---	---
Michigan	---	---	---	---	---	2	14	14	3	2	---	1	---	1	---	---	---
Ohio	---	---	---	1	6	9	8	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Wisconsin	---	---	---	---	---	2	10	12	9	6	---	1	---	---	---	---	---
PLAINS	---	---	6	20	11	25	49	95	104	59	38	24	6	7	2	6	---
Iowa	---	---	---	---	---	---	3	16	34	11	4	1	---	---	---	---	---
Kansas	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	5	10	10	15	16	2	3	2	1	---
Minnesota	---	---	---	---	---	---	3	16	26	14	4	2	1	---	---	---	---
Missouri	---	---	6	20	10	16	18	8	6	3	---	1	---	---	---	---	---
Nebraska	---	---	---	---	---	2	11	23	6	10	8	1	2	2	---	5	---
North Dakota	---	---	---	---	1	4	10	17	8	3	---	---	1	---	---	---	---
South Dakota	---	---	---	---	---	3	4	10	14	8	7	3	---	2	---	---	---
UPPER SOUTHEAST	28	73	79	62	21	6	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Kentucky	26	45	16	4	2	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Tennessee	1	24	36	14	2	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Virginia	1	4	19	32	8	2	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
West Virginia	---	---	8	12	9	3	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
LOWER SOUTHEAST	30	90	148	91	45	17	17	9	6	2	3	---	1	---	---	---	---
Alabama	---	---	25	19	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Arkansas	22	27	11	2	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Florida	---	---	---	---	4	6	8	1	3	2	3	---	---	---	---	---	---
Georgia	---	2	29	56	30	3	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Louisiana	---	---	---	---	9	7	8	8	3	---	---	---	1	---	---	---	---
Mississippi	8	45	16	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
North Carolina	---	3	52	12	1	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
South Carolina	---	13	15	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
SOUTHWEST	---	1	---	---	5	32	50	31	17	11	11	6	6	4	3	3	5
Arizona	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
New Mexico	---	---	---	---	---	---	1	2	---	1	3	2	1	---	1	---	---
Oklahoma	---	1	---	---	2	18	8	8	1	1	3	1	1	---	---	---	---
Texas	---	---	---	---	3	14	41	21	16	8	5	3	4	4	2	3	5
ROCKY MOUNTAIN	---	---	---	3	5	7	14	14	13	12	11	15	8	9	8	7	4
Colorado	---	---	---	---	---	1	3	4	6	6	6	5	1	3	3	1	2
Idaho	---	---	---	3	4	2	5	8	2	1	---	---	---	1	---	1	---
Montana	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	2	4	4	8	6	5	5	1	1
Utah	---	---	---	---	1	4	6	2	3	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1
Wyoming	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1	1	2	1	---	---	4	---
FAR WEST	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	3	9	7	7	8	3	5	1	7
California	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	4	2	2	4	---	---	---	3
Nevada	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	2	1	1	2	1	2	---	2
Oregon	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1	2	2	2	---	1	1	1	2
Washington	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	2	1	2	2	2	1	2	---	---

[1] Four States – Connecticut, Delaware, New Jersey, and Rhode Island–and the District of Columbia were found to contain no counties which qualify as rural under the criteria employed.

Table 6. – LOWEST, AVERAGE, AND HIGHEST EXPENDITURES PER PUPIL (A.D.A.) FOR TRANSPORTATION, BY GROUPS OF RURAL COUNTIES, REGION, AND STATE: 1955-56

Region and State	Range of expenditures–all groups			Range of expenditures–groups[1] by degree of ruralness											
				A			B			C			D		
	Lowest	Average	Highest	Lowest	Average	Highest	Lowest	Average	Highest	Lowest	Average	Highest	Lowest	Average	Highest
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Total 44[2] States	**0**	**21**	**159**	**0**	**21**	**109**	**0**	**25**	**158**	**0**	**20**	**58**	**3**	**19**	**52**
NEW ENGLAND	**15**	**26**	**46**	---	---	---	**15**	**26**	**46**	---	---	---	**(3)**	**25**	**(3)**
Maine	15	[illegible]	27	---	---	---	15	21	27	---	---	---	(3)	25	(3)
Massachusetts	(3)	18	(3)	---	---	---	(3)	18	(3)	---	---	---	---	---	---
New Hampshire	(3)	46	(3)	---	---	---	(3)	46	(3)	---	---	---	---	---	---
Vermont	23	26	31	---	---	---	23	26	31	---	---	---	---	---	---
MIDEAST	**23**	**37**	**64**	**46**	**49**	**52**	**23**	**36**	**57**	---	---	---	---	---	---
Maryland	24	38	64	(3)	46	(3)	24	38	64	---	---	---	---	---	---
New York	30	38	63	---	---	---	30	38	63	---	---	---	---	---	---
Pennsylvania	23	35	57	(3)	52	(3)	23	34	57	---	---	---	---	---	---
GREAT LAKES	**11**	**30**	**77**	**16**	**34**	**77**	**14**	**32**	**67**	**17**	**30**	**55**	**11**	**26**	**43**
Illinois	14	34	48	(3)	37	(3)	(3)	34	(3)	(3)	37	(3)	19	33	38
Indiana	11	34	77	(3)	46	(3)	(3)	42	(3)	20	38	52	(3)	27	(3)
Michigan	20	29	58	30	34	58	20	31	58	22	27	32	20	25	33
Ohio	13	21	40	16	25	40	16	20	34	17	20	29	13	19	28
Wisconsin	20	32	57	(3)	37	(3)	(3)	48	(3)	24	32	55	(3)	26	(3)
PLAINS	**0**	**27**	**91**	**1**	**28**	**91**	**5**	**27**	**63**	**0**	**27**	**49**	**7**	**25**	**74**
Iowa	16	31	58	26	36	58	23	32	44	23	31	42	16	29	46
Kansas	9	29	68	(3)	34	(3)	15	32	60	(3)	18	(3)	(3)	21	(3)
Minnesota	9	34	91	(3)	37	(3)	40	44	49	(3)	34	(3)	(3)	31	(3)
Missouri	6	25	75	16	28	75	(3)	27	38	15	26	49	7	21	74
Nebraska	0	12	70	(3)	12	(3)	5	18	48	(3)	6	(3)	(3)	10	(3)
North Dakota	7	19	46	8	22	46	7	17	41	---	---	---	9	13	15
South Dakota	3	18	45	3	21	44	10	16	45	(3)	15	(3)	(3)	10	(3)
UPPER SOUTHEAST	**5**	**17**	**51**	**5**	**19**	**51**	**7**	**15**	**33**	**8**	**16**	**28**	**9**	**15**	**26**
Kentucky	5	15	37	5	18	37	7	9	20	(3)	14	(3)	(2)	17	(3)
Tennessee	5	18	51	11	20	51	8	19	32	11	17	28	9	14	20
Virginia	10	19	33	16	19	32	10	18	33	15	17	19	12	15	18
West Virginia	9	16	30	15	21	30	9	14	25	---	---	---	13	15	18
LOWER SOUTHEAST	**1**	**17**	**75**	**1**	**17**	**64**	**4**	**22**	**75**	**3**	**16**	**52**	**3**	**15**	**52**
Alabama	10	17	29	10	17	29	(3)	17	(3)	(3)	16	(3)	(3)	13	(3)
Arkansas	8	16	34	14	21	34	16	18	21	8	14	22	10	14	22
Florida	8	21	47	22	28	47	8	21	46	15	21	23	(3)	21	(3)
Georgia	11	23	52	16	27	52	11	24	42	13	23	35	13	19	30
Louisiana	17	38	75	34	40	64	17	43	75	27	35	52	17	36	52
Mississippi	7	16	30	8	16	30	17	19	22	11	16	23	7	13	16
North Carolina	1	10	27	1	11	22	10	12	27	7	10	16	6	9	12
South Carolina	3	4	10	4	6	10	4	5	6	3	4	4	3	4	8
SOUTHWEST	**0**	**18**	**158**	**0**	**20**	**104**	**1**	**22**	**158**	**7**	**17**	**58**	**5**	**15**	**41**
Arizona	(3)	22	(3)	---	---	---	(3)	22	(3)	---	---	---	---	---	---
New Mexico	20	35	83	(3)	52	(3)	23	38	83	(3)	20	(3)	---	---	---
Oklahoma	13	23	67	14	25	67	25	34	61	13	23	37	17	21	41
Texas	0	13	158	0	14	104	1	17	158	7	12	58	5	12	28
ROCKY MOUNTAIN	**0**	**30**	**116**	**24**	**41**	**94**	**0**	**34**	**116**	**22**	**30**	**42**	**11**	**22**	**48**
Colorado	0	26	116	39	47	66	0	32	116	(3)	22	(3)	(3)	17	(3)
Idaho	11	27	92	24	26	28	15	32	92	26	30	42	11	19	30
Montana	13	45	75	32	49	75	13	46	68	(3)	41	(3)	30	38	47
Utah	5	17	94	25	31	94	(3)	14	(3)	---	---	---	(3)	19	(3)
Wyoming	25	41	78	(3)	35	(3)	25	41	48	---	---	---	36	41	48
FAR WEST	**8**	**35**	**130**	**(3)**	**109**	**(3)**	**8**	**37**	**130**	**18**	**33**	**48**	**21**	**27**	**38**
California	18	31	130	---	---	---	22	39	130	(3)	18	(3)	21	25	26
Nevada	8	30	58	---	---	---	8	30	58	---	---	---	---	---	---
Oregon	21	35	113	(3)	109	(3)	26	34	113	---	---	---	21	32	38
Washington	22	43	78	---	---	---	22	41	78	(3)	45	(3)	---	---	---

[1]Groups A, B, C and D described on page 2.
[2]Four States – Connecticut, Delaware, New Jersey, and Rhode Island–and the District of Columbia were found to contain no counties which qualified as rural under the criteria employed.
[3]One county only.

Table 7. – DISTRIBUTION OF RURAL COUNTIES ACCORDING TO AVERAGE EXPENDITURES FOR TRANSPORTATION PER PUPIL (A.D.A.), BY REGION AND STATE: 1955-56

Region and State	Number of counties by per pupil transportation cost interval												
	Under $5	$5 to $9	$10 to $14	$15 to $19	$20 to $24	$25 to $29	$30 to $34	$35 to $39	$40 to $44	$45 to $49	$50 to $54	$55 to $59	$60 and over
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Total 44[1] States	41	107	221	322	262	226	208	122	78	64	28	24	47
NEW ENGLAND	---	---	---	2	2	4	1	---	---	1	---	---	---
Maine	---	---	---	1	1	2	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Massachusetts	---	---	---	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
New Hampshire	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1	---	---	---
Vermont	---	---	---	---	1	2	1	---	---	---	---	---	---
MIDEAST	---	---	---	---	3	---	6	2	3	4	2	2	2
Maryland	---	---	---	---	1	---	2	1	2	2	---	---	1
New York	---	---	---	---	---	---	1	---	1	1	---	---	1
Pennsylvania	---	---	---	---	2	---	3	1	---	1	2	2	---
GREAT LAKES	---	---	3	13	23	26	38	23	19	9	8	7	2
Illinois	---	---	1	2	---	4	9	9	6	3	---	---	---
Indiana	---	---	1	1	3	5	5	4	7	2	4	1	2
Michigan	---	---	---	---	8	4	12	8	1	1	---	3	---
Ohio	---	---	1	10	7	3	3	---	1	---	---	---	---
Wisconsin	---	---	---	---	5	10	9	2	4	3	4	3	---
PLAINS	16	27	32	49	61	66	76	56	30	24	3	5	7
Iowa	---	---	---	1	1	21	19	11	7	2	---	1	---
Kansas	---	1	3	7	8	6	15	9	5	4	1	2	3
Minnesota	---	1	---	1	6	9	13	13	7	12	1	2	1
Missouri	---	2	3	11	17	11	17	16	5	3	1	---	2
Nebraska	15	11	4	15	5	7	7	4	---	1	---	---	1
North Dakota	---	7	12	5	7	6	3	---	3	1	---	---	---
South Dakota	1	5	10	9	11	6	2	3	3	1	---	---	---
UPPER SOUTHEAST	---	18	47	89	53	38	19	4	---	---	1	---	---
Kentucky	---	13	23	16	23	12	4	3	---	---	---	---	---
Tennessee	---	4	12	30	13	8	8	1	---	---	1	---	---
Virginia	---	---	6	33	9	13	5	---	---	---	---	---	---
West Virginia	---	1	6	10	8	5	2	---	---	---	---	---	---
LOWER SOUTHEAST	19	31	91	117	71	53	35	15	10	9	5	---	3
Alabama	---	---	15	16	10	4	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Arkansas	---	1	14	28	11	3	5	---	---	---	---	---	---
Florida	---	1	1	8	7	4	1	3	---	2	---	---	---
Georgia	---	---	6	21	26	34	22	6	4	1	1	---	---
Louisiana	---	---	---	2	---	3	6	6	6	6	4	---	3
Mississippi	---	4	17	32	12	4	1	---	---	---	---	---	---
North Carolina	1	15	37	10	5	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
South Carolina	18	10	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
SOUTHWEST	4	24	40	36	31	16	9	6	4	3	2	2	8
Arizona	---	---	---	---	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
New Mexico	---	---	---	---	3	1	---	---	2	---	2	1	2
Oklahoma	---	---	2	10	15	6	1	5	2	1	---	---	2
Texas	4	24	38	26	12	9	8	1	---	2	---	1	4
ROCKY MOUNTAIN	2	6	8	13	12	15	14	13	10	10	6	5	16
Colorado	2	2	4	6	5	5	2	2	1	3	2	2	5
Idaho	---	---	1	4	4	5	3	4	1	2	1	1	1
Montana	---	---	1	---	1	---	7	4	8	3	3	2	7
Utah	---	4	2	3	2	3	1	1	---	---	---	---	1
Wyoming	---	---	---	---	---	2	1	2	---	2	---	---	2
FAR WEST	---	1	---	3	6	8	10	3	2	4	1	3	9
California	---	---	---	1	2	5	2	---	---	---	---	1	4
Nevada	---	1	---	2	2	2	1	1	1	---	---	1	---
Oregon	---	---	---	---	1	1	4	1	---	1	1	1	2
Washington	---	---	---	---	1	---	3	1	1	3	---	---	3

[1] Four States – Connecticut, Delaware, New Jersey, and Rhode Island—and the District of Columbia were found to contain no counties which qualify as rural under the criteria employed.

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